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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Fifth Year of Continuous Publication

| BOONE WEATHER | | | |
|---------------|------|-----|------------|
| 1962 | High | Low | Wind |
| Sept. 11 | 77 | 62 | 78 56 |
| Sept. 12 | 31 | 49 | 81 56 |
| Sept. 13 | 82 | 49 | 75 56 |
| Sept. 14 | 82 | 55 | 70 61 |
| Sept. 15 | 76 | 53 | 63 49 |
| Sept. 16 | 85 | 53 | 2.00 64 29 |
| Sept. 17 | 70 | 55 | 1.06 61 28 |

VOLUME LXXV.—NO. 12

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1962

6 CENTS

16 PAGES—2 SECTIONS



PART OF THE 2500 WHO ATTENDED EDUCATIONAL RALLY

Flowers Photo

“NO PLACE FOR UNSKILLED”

Governor Challenges Watauga Co. Students

“You Hold The Key,” Says Sanford

Governor Terry Sanford told a group of Watauga students of all ages Monday night that their help and support is needed if North Carolina is going to have better education.

“We need your support,” he said. “We need your help . . . if we are going to make our education second to none.”

The challenge was issued by the Governor in one of his talks to students over the state to inform the students of the “quality education” program he is interested in, and has been backing during his administration. He intends to visit every county in the State in support of the program, and had already made several speeches Monday in other counties of the area before coming to Boone for the big educational rally which was attended by 2500 people.

A retired Episcopal minister, Rev. Mr. Atkins was a native of Bayonne, New Jersey. He established residence at Shulls Mills 57 years ago, where he was engaged in the Episcopal ministry. Later he became chaplain and superintendent of the hospital at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn.

Besides those in Western North Carolina, he had served parishes in New York, Richmond, Va., and at the time of his death was a priest of the New York Diocese. In recent years he had lived at Shulls Mills during the summers, spending the winters in West Point, Va.

Rev. Mr. Atkins was confirmed in Trinity Episcopal Church in New York City, and was ordained as a clergyman by the late Bishop Horner, the first Bishop of the Western North Carolina Episcopal diocese.

During 1950-51 he served as supply minister of Grace Church in Morganton. He had served churches in Hickory, Bat Cave, Boone, Valle Crucis and Blowing Rock.

Rev. Mr. Atkins' father was George W. E. Atkins, for a great many years Vice-President of the Western Union Telegraph Co.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 o'clock Friday at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Valle Crucis by the Rev. R. Y. Winters and the Rev. C. Ward Courtney, and burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Katherine Moran Atkins; three sons, Joseph A. Atkins of Pitts- (Continued on page two)



DINNER—Governor Terry Sanford speaks briefly at dinner before addressing educational rally. At his left are superintendent of schools W. Guy Angell and Mrs. Angell; right Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hagan.—Flowers Photo.

BEST RESORT YEAR IN HISTORY

B. Rock Plans TV Promotion; Civic Auditorium Considered

Blowing Rock enjoyed the best season in its history, it was revealed in reports made to the Board of Directors of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce last Thursday.

Parkway travel showed an increase of about 13 per cent over a year ago, it was stated. The membership committee reported 98.84 per cent collections of membership dues for the year 1962, with the total membership standing at 363.

The beautification of grounds in front of the Chamber of Commerce offices was approved along with the refurbishing of the offices.

The need for an auditorium was discussed and preliminary plans were laid. Plans for local television films were approved, and these films are to be shown on national television networks sometime within the next sixty days. The directors also approved the purchase of one of these films to be used by the Chamber of Commerce in its promotional work for the ensuing year. The film will feature Blowing Rock, its summer homes, its attractions and its progress over the years. Most of the pictures have been made; others will

be made during the fall of the year when colors are at their best. These will be followed by films showing ski slopes, the making of the snow, and action shots of skiers. The number of visitors seeking information from the Chamber of Commerce materially increased during the year and the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce has been a busy place during 1962.

Modern Appliance People Earn Vegas, Hawaii Trip

On Friday, September 14, a group of 34 area people will leave the Tri-Cities Airport in Bristol, Tennessee, for a trip to Las Vegas and Honolulu, Hawaii. They will attend the Gibson Refrigerator Sales Corp. Con-

vention and view the new line of 1963 appliances while in Honolulu.

They will be guests at the fabulous Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas for a night on the famous “Strip” and Bon-Voyage party at the Flamingo and also at the Tropicana Night Club where they will see the Folies Bergerre. They will leave Las Vegas on a chartered Pan American Boeing 707 Jet for the trip to Honolulu and a stay at the exclusive Hilton Hawaiian Village.

Area people will include Mr. John H. Edmisten from Modern Appliance Co., Boone. He has been presented this trip through his excellent sales record for the past year.

Report On Horn To Be Made Soon

The Southern Appalachian Historical Association will meet October 8th, at which time it will hear a report of this year's operation of Horn in the West.

The Horn has had a very successful season, according to H. W. Wilcox, executive vice-president of the drama, but he points out that expenses have been increased due to the staging of five additional performances this year.

Major repairs are needed at the theatre, Mr. Wilcox says, and adds that, along with other obligations, it will take several more good seasons “before we will be satisfied.”

The major purpose now, Mr. Wilcox adds, is to assure the general public that the drama will continue to be presented.

Boone, Blowing Rock Get Powell Bill Roads Money

The allocation of \$1,629,882.79 in Powell Bill funds to 413 participating municipalities was announced last week by the State Highway Commission. The funds are distributed annually to qualified cities and towns for use in non-highway system street work within their corporate limits. Checks to the individual municipalities will be mailed from Raleigh the latter part of this month in order that they will reach municipalities by October 1.

In Watauga county Blowing Rock was allotted \$11,129.04 and Boone \$15,636.57, 187.85.

In Avery county Banner Elk gets \$2,449.51, Newland \$4,326.94 and Elk Park \$2,587.92.

Powell Bill allocations are based on a formula using the population and street mileage in the municipalities and the total allocation this year represents an increase over 1961 of \$273,748.82.

The six largest allocations this year are: Charlotte, \$689,804.78; Greensboro, \$457,857.55; Winston-Salem, \$377,481.56; Raleigh, \$326,069.80; Asheville, \$270,772.87; and Durham, \$259,187.85.

SOLICITOR TO QUIZ WITNESSES

State Election Board Asks Court Action In Vote Charges

Raleigh—The State Board of Elections declared Wednesday that an SBI probe of alleged ballot-box stuffing in Watauga County uncovered evidence of “definite violations of the election laws, not mere irregularities.”

“The charges are serious,” said the board in a statement as it urged speedy court action, “and if true, indicate that an open effort was made to fix the Democratic primary election in Watauga County. The primary was held last May 26.

The board said it has turned the SBI's report of its probe over to Solicitor B. T. Falls Jr. of Shelby “with the request that he seek one or more bills of indictment against those persons implicated in the election law violations.”

3 Inches Rain Ends Drought

More than three inches of rain fell on Boone Saturday and Sunday, breaking a prolonged drought, which had dried up several springs in the area, and threatened a water shortage generally.

Although more than an inch of rain had fallen early this month, it was not enough to keep the streams flowing fully following a dry August, when little more than two inches of rain were recorded.

The rain began Saturday afternoon, slackened a little during the evening, but then about 9:30 set in for good, and by 7 a. m. Sunday, two inches were recorded. Most of Sunday was dampened by the continual fall, and on Monday morning at 7 o'clock, another 1.06 inches was recorded. Mid-morning Monday the skies brightened, and the sun came through, but not before another .16 of an inch was recorded.

“The board hopes,” the statement continued, “that any persons who may be indicted by the Watauga County Grand Jury will be brought to trial promptly in order that this matter may be cleaned up before the November elections.”

The grand jury is scheduled to meet Sept. 24 at the start of a criminal term of Superior Court in the county.

The state board asked for the SBI probe at a meeting here June 8 at which it heard evidence of ballot box stuffing in the Cove Creek Precinct of Watauga. The board asked the Watauga County Board of Elections to throw out Democratic votes cast in the precinct.

It acted after hearing a transcript of a hearing conducted by the Watauga board, at which two precinct officials testified they had refused to sign the vote returns from the precinct. They said the Democratic ballot box contained 206 more ballots than there were names on the poll book.

Solicitor To Ask Questions Before Court

Shelby, Sept. 13—Superior Court Solicitor B. T. Falls Jr. will question witnesses in the Watauga County ballot stuffing case next week to determine whether to seek criminal indictments.

Falls said Wednesday he plans to go to Watauga County late next week with SBI agents who first investigated charges of ballot stuffing during the primary election last May.

“If I can get competent evidence from witnesses to support an indictment, then I'll certainly ask for an indictment,” Falls said.

“I'm not going to whitewash it. It'll be aired one way or the other.”

Falls said he has read excerpts of the SBI investigation report and found it full of evidence. But he said he will need to talk with witnesses himself before asking a grand jury for an indictment.

May Settle Road Dispute

Grandfather Mountain.—Cliff Benson of Raleigh, chairman of a State Highway Commission study committee, said Thursday his committee hopes to come up with something to satisfy both sides in the dispute over where the Blue Ridge Parkway will run in the Grandfather Mountain area.

He made the remark but declined further comment after the committee wound up a three-day stay here. He said the committee would report to the commission at its next meeting in Raleigh September 26-27.

The National Park Service and Hugh Morton, owner of Grandfather Mountain, have been at odds over which of two or three routes through the Grandfather Mountain area will be used.

Jaycees Making Annual Beauty Pageant Plans

The local Jaycees have been making plans for the annual Watauga county beauty pageant. October 27 has been set as the date for the event of talent and beauty, which is to be held in the Appalachian Elementary School auditorium.

Already the entries committee has begun its annual search for lovely, talented young ladies in our community. The committee plans to contact the (Continued on page two)

Rev. Atkins Dies At 81; Rites Friday

The Reverend John Norton Atkins, 81, of the Shulls Mills section, died at Blowing Rock Hospital Tuesday evening of last week after a long period of declining health.

A retired Episcopal minister, Rev. Mr. Atkins was a native of Bayonne, New Jersey. He established residence at Shulls Mills 57 years ago, where he was engaged in the Episcopal ministry. Later he became chaplain and superintendent of the hospital at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn.

Besides those in Western North Carolina, he had served parishes in New York, Richmond, Va., and at the time of his death was a priest of the New York Diocese. In recent years he had lived at Shulls Mills during the summers, spending the winters in West Point, Va.

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Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Katherine Moran Atkins; three sons, Joseph A. Atkins of Pitts- (Continued on page two)

Conor Story Funeral Held

Conor M. Story of Graham died Thursday, September 6 in a Burlington Rest Home after several years of declining health.

Mr. Story was a son of the late Lorenza and Martha Curtis Story. He was a native of Caldwell County and a retired carpenter. He was also a veteran of World War I.

The funeral was conducted Saturday, September 8 at the Graham First Baptist Church. Burial was in the Alamance Memorial Park.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Bonnie Schronce Story of Graham; three sons, C. Max Story of Winston-Salem, B. Jack Story of Greensboro and Charles Story of Kannapolis; one daughter, Mrs. Roscoe S. Williams of Jacksonville, Fla.; one sister, Mrs. A. K. Hampton of Boone; five grandchildren and one great grandchild. (Continued on page two)

Local United Fund Makes Plans For Raising \$15,000 In October

The Watauga County United Fund is now making plans for its annual campaign which will start in early October.

Glenn Andrews will again be chairman of the advance gifts committee and Cecil Miller chairman of the general solicitation group.

Dependent upon funds from the campaign are some twenty local charities, including everything from the Empty Stocking fund to the Red Cross and all types of youth work. There are seventeen State organizations included, in addition to the local charities for a total budget of almost \$15,000.

Mental Health
The United Fund helps support the mental health program.

The acceptance of mental illness did not come overnight. It has taken years of educating the public and of research to bring about this change in thinking, and in the effective treatment of mentally ill persons.

North Carolina is fast becoming recognized as a leader in the nation's fight against mental illness. The North Carolina Mental Health Association, together with its 37 local associations, has worked diligently in

this field; through education of its citizens by holding seminars, workshops, programs, etc.; through scholarships to students interested in going into mental health work; through legislation, in urging that the State's commitment laws be revised (these laws were revised during the last legislative); through the support of Mental Health Clinics; through the concerted effort of all citizens actively interested in better mental health.

Throughout the State, individuals, clubs and associations are cooperating with the (Continued on page two)